



FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2015

The November 19, 2015 meeting of the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council was held at the Fairfax County Government Center in Conference Room 4-5. Chairperson James Sobecke called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM with 22 members and staff present. Introductions of attendees were made and a listing of those in attendance is included on the final pages of these minutes.

Speaker Presentation:

Dean Sherick, Community Outreach Liaison Assistant for the Office of Emergency Management, provided the Council with an overview of the upgraded ReadyNOVA.org website. The website is provided through grant funding to the Northern Virginia Emergency Response System which maintains the site. Recent upgrades to the program provide individuals and families, businesses, and faith-based organizations the ability to easily make their own emergency preparedness plan. The website is divided into family, business and faith-based and the user can select from seven different language options in addition to English.

Each plan has multiple sections that the user can complete as they work through the full plan. The family plan has five steps which include making a survival kit as well as a communications plan. The business portion has seven steps that cover evacuation and shelter-in-place as well as records management. The faith area of the web site has 12 steps that include topics such as essential functions, continuity of operations and vital resources. Once completed, the user can save the PDF-formatted file to their own computer, email it, print it or just delete it. No data is saved online by the program so there should not be any concerns regarding inappropriately shared personal information.

Also available at the website are a number of resources which provide information of local news sources, web links to local emergency management offices in Northern Virginia, other emergency preparedness websites and infrastructure web links.

There is currently an advertising campaign being done through the Washington Post to generate additional notification to the public about the availability of the ReadyNOVA.org web site. One ad appeared in conjunction with a winter storm preparedness article which is posted on the wall for your review. Also, the Northern Virginia Emergency Response System has provided over 2600 emergency preparedness kits for distribution to volunteers engaged in emergency preparedness events so be sure to contact Dean to see if your activity may qualify to share the bags with your volunteers. Visit the website of ReadyNOVA.org for more preparedness information.

Business Meeting

A quorum was present and minutes for the September meeting were approved.

Old Business:

Election of Officers

Chairperson Sobecke led discussion regarding the bylaws requirements for the Council's elections of officers which should have occurred in July. Various Council members provided suggestions and options. A motion was made to have the existing officers continue through the current year. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Additional discussion focused on the current vacancies of secretary and Outreach Chairperson. Maria Bernadzikowski, Volunteer Fairfax representative, volunteered to fill the secretary position and was unanimously elected to the position.

Certificates of Recognition

Andrew Levy, representative for Supervisor Bulova, inquired on the status of the delivery of certificates of recognition to those Council members who had been listed at a previous meeting. Staff indicated that the certificates had not yet been completed. Mr. Levy made a motion that if the task was not completed by the next meeting, another means be sought in order to complete the project. The motion was seconded and passed.

Committee Updates:

Outreach: The committee chair person is currently vacant.

Grants: Dean Sherick, Office of Emergency Management Community Outreach Liaison, reported the following grant information:

- Andrew Sullivan is the new Grants Financial Manager for the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Andrew's initial task has been reviewing the past two years of grant activity to ensure all was properly reconciled and correct.
- Urban Area Security Initiatives FY2015 Grants have been awarded, the Board of Supervisors has approved the grant package and OEM will be soliciting requests in the near future. Fairfax County is allocated \$282,000 during this period which runs from September 1, 2015 – May of 2017.

Committee Updates, continued:

Membership: Jim Kirkpatrick, Membership Committee Chairperson, reported that he has made reached out several occasions to various Council affiliated organizations. The Salvation Army has not responded so it has been determined that they should be removed from the affiliated organization list. There has been contact with the Northern Virginia Community College to have them join the Council. There is also the possibility of having a representative from Fairfax County Public Schools participating as well. Staff did report that several contacts have been made with the Fairfax County Public Schools Fire and EMS program and the Parent – Teacher Association but no response has been provided. Also mentioned was the possible use of meeting invitations through Outlook but not all members utilize Microsoft products so the message is not legible. It was suggested to send the meeting invitations for the January 2016 meeting.

Member Updates – Board of Supervisor Representatives:

At Large: Andrew Levy indicated that he was not able to find the Council meeting on the County website when he search for the Citizen Corps. Staff reported that he may need to go to the “Public Meeting Calendar” on the County web site in order to locate the meeting event listing.

Braddock: James Sobecke had nothing to report.

Dranesville: Wes Callender was not able to attend.

Lee: Linda Waller had nothing to report.

Mason: Brian Foley was not able to attend.

Mount Vernon: Jonathan Kiell was not able to attend but did share through staff that Dan Stork had been elected as the new Mount Vernon District Supervisor.

Providence: Al Potter had nothing to report.

Springfield: Jim Kirkpatrick had nothing to report.

Member Updates – Core Programs:

CERT: Dana Powers, staff support for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) reported there are currently four classes in session and they had just completed a final exercise in the Mason Neck area. A women's self-defense course has been scheduled. CERT has been successful in their grant application through the Commonwealth and will receive \$9,100.00 for the CERT-Con event which will occur in 2016. CERT-Con is a two-day CERT convention and they are looking for a venue to conduct the event as well as a keynote speaker. If you have any suggestions, please let them know.

Missy Tuttle-Ferrio, CERT representative, informed the attendees that over 2,500 individuals have been trained in CERT and, currently, over 400 have registered to be part of the local teams which are being established. An exercise is planned for the upcoming weekend and victims are being sought to assist with that event. Missy provided some additional information about the CERT convention and reported that they are expecting over 300 or more participants from around the Washington, DC area to participate.

Fire Corps: Daniel Liebman had nothing to report.

MRC: Paula Rosca, staff support for the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), reported that the MRC coordinator position which was vacated last month will not be filled for some time. MRC had 124 volunteers provide approximately 750 hours of service to the Health Department in September and October. They conducted six training sessions which included a personal preparedness workshop in September. An October event was led by a regional epidemiologists to share information about the Ebola and measles activities.

MRC volunteers had been activated for the measles event in October with 9 volunteers contributing over 90 hours. Additional activities included the back-to-school vaccination program, the Great Southeast Shakeout exercise. There will be a number of training opportunities in 2016 including the MRC Summit in March.

MRC now added the Federal Emergency Management Agency's IS-22 course on individual preparedness to the list of training requirements for their members. This course is available in a face-to-face session or online.



Member Updates – Core Programs, continued:

Neighborhood Watch:

Neighborhood Watch reported that the holiday season tends to bring out opportunistic criminals who will take advantage of packages delivered to residences, gifts left in vehicles, and unattended purses. Frank Vajda also mentioned issues with keyless entry vehicles. He recommended locking your car at all times, keeping garage doors closed and not starting your car to warm it without being in attendance of the vehicle. Also mentioned was a case of recent credit card skimming and that users of ATMs should check the machine to ensure a skimming device has not been installed.

VIPS/APO: Jennifer Wheeler had nothing to report.

Member Updates – Affiliated Organizations:

American Red Cross:

Candice Covin introduced herself as the new Red Cross representative for the region. Candice had nothing to report.

Fairfax ARES:

Mary Moon reported that the Fairfax County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) will be participating in two different events this weekend.

FCIA: Faith Communities In Action reported that they worked with the Office of Emergency Management to hand out emergency preparedness information on Saturday, September 26, 2015. A briefing was shared with the event volunteers and they then distributed over 2,000 packets of preparedness information to houses in the Springfield and West Springfield areas.

Fairfax Local Emergency Planning Committee:

Erik Peterson reported that the October meeting had presentations on the Colonial Pipeline Centreville gasoline release and from a Community Emergency Response Team member of Class 103. During the meeting the attendees participated in the Great Southeast Shakeout which was the earthquake drill. A hazardous materials exercise was planned to occur but was cancelled due to bad weather and will rescheduled for another date.



Member Updates – Affiliated Organizations, continued:

Northern Virginia Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

Bonnie O’Leary had nothing to report.

United Way: Lawrence Ewing had nothing to report.

Volunteer Fairfax:

Volunteer Fairfax conducted the Lee District Community Resiliency Group Seminar on October 14th and 76 people from various organizations attended the event. The Community Resiliency Group program is designed to have community-based organizations from each district assist with volunteers and donations during times of disaster.

The new Chief Executive Officer for Volunteer Fairfax is Elise Bengston.

Office of Emergency Management Staff Report:

Dean Sherick, Community Outreach Liaison Assistant:

- 2015 Citizen Corps Awards were on September 8th and 130 applications from 40 different states and the District of Columbia were submitted. The Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council was awarded one of four honorable mentions in the Outstanding Citizen Corps Council category for the 2014 Ready-Set-Know Festival.
- Information was forwarded for two upcoming webinars to sign up to participate in those.
- All Council organizations are requested to submit information for the annual report. Staff will be forwarding template to report information for the core programs as well as other organizations that would like to have inclusion in the report.
- The Virginia Department of Emergency Management will be holding a regional listening session on the subject of shelters on Thursday, December 3rd and all involved agencies and organizations are invited to attend. The announcement will be forwarded to the Council membership.

Office of Emergency Management Staff Report, continued:

Sulayman Brown, Deputy Coordinator:

- OEM Outreach Staff

Dave McKernan has submitted his resignation as the Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Dave has served the Fire and Rescue Department for thirty-five years and seven years with OEM. His last day will be March 4, 2016.

The new Community Outreach Manager is Sandy Fox who will start on November 30th.

The Access and Functional Needs /ADA position has been announced so we hope to have that position filled early in 2016.

The internship program is also accepting applications until January 15, 2016.

New Business:

Use of Fairfax Alerts / Everbridge System

There was discussion on the possible by use of the Everbridge System as a means of communication for the Council. The Everbridge System is the program that is used for Fairfax Alerts but a separate group could be included for notifications. Everyone would need to sign up for the program in order for the communications to be complete. Council individuals were invited to talk with Sulayman Brown and Paul Lupe of OEM staff for further action.

Office of Emergency Management Intern Program

There was discussion about having the students who participate in the OEM intern program attend the Council meetings. Staff reported that the interns have been invited to attend but often have classes or other obligations which has prevented them from attending other meetings.

Council Meetings for 2016

The dates for Citizen Corps Council meetings for 2016 are: January 28, March 24, May 26, July 28, September 22 and November 17. All meetings are scheduled to be held in Conference Room 9-10 at the Government Center.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28th at 6:45 pm at the Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 9/10.

**General Meeting – Sign In
November 19, 2015**

Name	Organization Represented	Present
Bernadizkowski, Maria *	Volunteer Fairfax	X
Braxton, Mary *	Virginia Alliance of Family Childcare	
Brown, Jennifer (* Alternate)	Volunteer Fairfax	
Callender, Wes *	Dranesville District	
Covin, Candice *	American Red Cross	X
Cockayne, John *	Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations	
Craven, Steve *	NoVa Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster	
Delaney, Karrie *	Sully District	
Drost, Peggy (* Alternate)	Faith Communities In Action	
Ewing, Lawrence *	United Way	X
Foley, Brian *	Mason District	
Fried, Gregory	Neighborhood Watch – Staff	
Galliere, Susan (* Alternate)	Virginia Alliance of Family Childcare	
Hale, Judith *	Salvation Army	
Hart, Susan (* Alternate)	Boy Scouts of America	
Heppner, Cheryl (* Alternate)	NoVa Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing	
Katz, Jeffrey	Community Emergency Response Team – Staff	
Kiell, Jonathan *	Mount Vernon District	
Kirkpatrick, Jim *	Springfield District	X
Lambiase, Tom *	Faith Communities In Action	X
Leino, Rick (* Alternate)	American Red Cross	X
Lelchook, Judith (* Alternate)	American Red Cross	
Levy, Andrew *	At-Large	X
Liebman, Daniel *	Fire Corps	X
McKernan, Dave	Office of Emergency Management – Staff	
Mitchell, Mark	Volunteers In Police Service – Staff	
Moon, Mary (* Alternate)	Amateur Radio Emergency Services	X
Nieman, Charlene *	CrisisLink	
O’Leary, Bonnie *	NoVa Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing	X
Olds, Bowman	Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee	
Patel, Tejas *	Boy Scouts of America	
Peterson, Erik (* Alternate)	Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee	X
Potter, Alan *	Providence District	X
Powers, Dana	Community Emergency Response Team – Staff	X
Robinette, Amelia *	Fairfax County Council of PTAs	
Rosca, Paula	Medical Reserve Corps – Staff	X
Rudnicki, Ken *	Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee	
Serle, Tracey *	Medical Reserve Corps	
Sherick, Dean	Office of Emergency Management – Staff	X



Sobecke, James	*	Braddock District (Chairperson)	X
Troutman, Jason	*	Fairfax County Amateur Radio Emergency Service	
Tuttle-Ferrio, Missy	*	Community Emergency Response Team (Vice-Chairperson)	X
Vajda, Frank	*	Neighborhood Watch	X
Waller, Linda	*	Lee District	X
Wheeler, Jennifer	*	Volunteers In Police Service	X
		Hunter Mill	
		Fairfax County Public Schools Fire & EMS	
		Northern Virginia Technology Council	
ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES			
Brown, Sulayman		Office of Emergency Management – Staff	X
Early, Beverly		Verbatim Reporting	X

* Indicates Voting Member